

## **April 2018**

**Monthly Update** 

#### UNFPA and Its Partners Working Around The clock to Provide Life-Saving Assistance

As of 14 April, UNFPA Syria had reached over 74,000 people with Gender-Based Violence services, 108,232 people with reproductive health and general health services in addition to distributing over 6,300 dignity kits

UNFPA is supporting the deployment of three mobile clinics: one general health clinic operated by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), and two clinics specializing in sexual and reproductive health, operated by our local partners, i.e.: Monastery Saint James the Mutilated (MSJM) and Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA).



Shelters are overcrowded and lack suitable latrines, washing facilities and sufficient lighting. UNFPA partners are still providing services in East Ghouta including general consultations, integrated reproductive health services", psychosocial support (PSS), psychological first aid (PFA), GBV services, GBV awareness, referral to specialized services and distribution of sanitary napkins.

#### Strengthening Advocacy and Partnership on GBV among various Sectors



UNFPA Syria office organized 2 trainings in Aleppo, focusing on Health GBV main streaming on 5/4/2018 for 20 participants and WASH GBV main streaming on 8/4/2018 for 28 participants. These training are very important because they help different sectors and social workers who does not work in the protection sector in general and GBV specifically how to do risk mitigation when presenting different humanitarian services for people in need. Trainings are presented for volunteers, social workers and personnel who works in different humanitarian actions to mitigate the risk of GBV in Afrin Response during the emergency response.

Participants are from all acting NGOs, SARC, INGOs, MSJM, GOPA, UN agencies, and DOSA from Aleppo governates who acts in the city and rural areas.

#### Capacity Building and Advocacy on GBV for Local Partners

For 4 days (23-26 Apr), UNFPA Syria office organized "TOT on basic GBV and advanced facilitation skills training in Aleppo. The training has been conducted for 30 participants from 14 different NGO's, Directorate of Social Affairs & Labor staff, UN staff and colleagues from Qamishli field office who are working in the context of protection services in Aleppo. The training aims to train basic GBV specialists and it is conducted by a team of trainers from UNFPA, UNHCR, and GOPA.





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## Interactive Theatre: A Support Tool to Help Young Syrians Cope with Trauma of the Crisis

Between 1- 4 April, Y-Peer Syria team organized 4 days training on peer education. The training was participated by 26 young males and females from Damascus and Rural Damascus, and included a wide range of topics, such as: Peer Education, SDGs, Sexual Transmitted Infections, Gender-Based Violence, Introduction to Interactive Theater, Introduction to Leadership, most vulnerable People, introduction to peace, Stigma and discrimination.

The Y-Peer team organized also 6 days training on peer education using interactive theater techniques, the training was participated by 23 young males and females from Damascus and Rural Damascus, and included the following topics: Peer Education, Gender, Sexual Transmitted Infections, most Vulnerable People, Stigma and Discrimination, Interactive Theater Techniques.



#### Building a Better Future For Young Syrians With Technology



UNFPA Syria and the Syrian Computer Society organized a "Tech Marathon" in Aleppo. The Marathon was called "Wikilogia Hackathon" and was implemented by the efforts of Wikilogia volunteers. Wikilogia Hackathon focused on tech-based projects in 4 pathways: Electronics and embedded systems, Web and mobile application, Machine learning and data science, gamification.

The program consisted of training phase followed by implementation phase under the mentorship of academic and practical experts. Mentorship sessions were divided into 5 one-on-one consultation. Closing ceremony took place in the Auditorium of the Faculty of Architecture in Aleppo on April 5, 2018 where 8 winners were awarded financial prizes and encouraged to scale up their projects. It is worth mentioning that the program was conducted between February 17 and April 5, 2018.

#### Youth Festival and Raising Awareness of HIV/AIDS Prevention

Between 5-8 April, UNFPA, and Syrian Association for Family Planning (SFPA) organized a youth festival in Aleppo. The festival focused on "HIV Stigma" through activities like awareness-raising sessions, interactive theater and other musical performances. It is worth mentioning that it was under "Education For All project."





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#### Skills Building to Help Syrian Women to Feed Their Families

Nour Foundation for Relief and Development (NFRD) organized a local workshop that targeted 10 women and aimed to teach them how to produce hand-made soap. The training workshop started on March 14 and ended on May 30. NFRD aims to empower women to reach their full potentials and become productive women who are capable of supporting themselves and their families through workshops they regularly organize.



The mentioned workshop included practical sessions as well as theoretical and practical knowledge on soap manufacturing. "This kind of workshops mainly aim to empower women to launch small businesses that don't need big capital and can be easily run from home," trainer expressed. Rima, participant, also ".said "it was very good for us to learn how to produce our own soap and cover our need These workshops will contribute to the overall development of women as part of "Women Empowerment" program. Huda, a participant, said: "It is all new information which make it more exciting for me to commit to coming every morning. It isn't hard and I can learn to produce my need of soap."



UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

While UNFPA assistance must remain concerned with saving lives and safeguarding human dignity, preparing Syrian people for future recovery, reconstruction, reconciliation and stability, is equally a priority.

#### **UNFPA Syria focusses on:**

- Improving access to high-quality reproductive health care.
- •Scaling-up gender-based violence prevention and response.
- Enhancing youth participation and inclusiveness.
- Supporting capacities to collect and use gender-and age-disaggregated data for tailoring response and recovery programming.

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